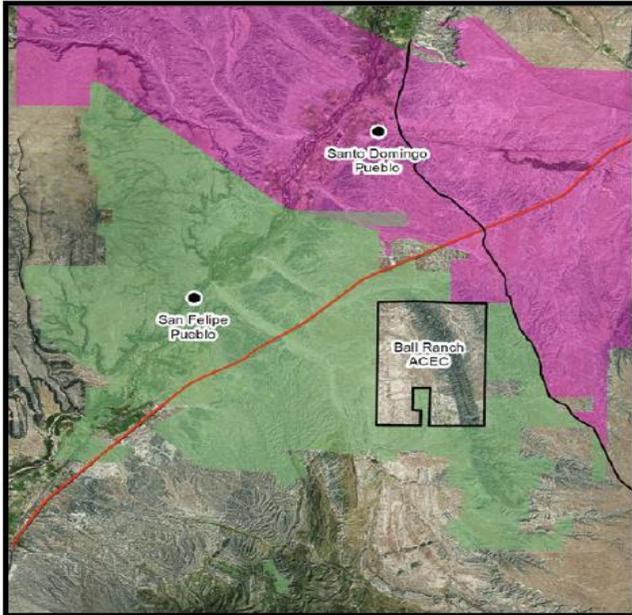


Critical Cultural Sites Protection: Ball Ranch ACEC
Pueblo of San Felipe Presentation
Indian Affairs Committee
September 30, 2021



Overview: The Pueblo of San Felipe is actively and continuously working to protect and preserve our ancestral tribal lands known current day as the Ball Ranch Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) currently held by the Bureau of Land Management.

The New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science under the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs has continuously ignored and disrespected the Pueblo of San Felipe and all attempts to inform and educate stakeholders of the significance of the ACEC and the cultural resources within to the Pueblo of San Felipe’s history and future.

Brief Timeline of Activity:

1998	2014	2015	2017	2019	2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Felipe, Kewa & BLM sign a MOU for ACEC because of known cultural resources and ties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM notifies Tribes of intention to issue excavation permit to NMMNHS. • San Felipe immediately responds with concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Felipe Leadership travel to Washington, D.C.; resolution of support from NCAI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIA OJS open ARPA violations Case at the ACEC site • San Felipe presents to IAC • UNM ends participation • DCA moratorium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with San Felipe, Kewa, Cochiti leadership & BLM • DCA lobbies to end moratorium • Museum extracting resources with volunteers • DCA recommends PaleoSolutions prospect entire ACEC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM contracts PaleoSolutions to prospect & excavate ACEC until 9/2022

Proposed Immediate Actions:

1. Letter of support from the Indian Affairs Committee to the Department of Cultural Affairs stating support of the Pueblo of San Felipe’s request to stay any and all activities that disturb and desecrate sites sacred to surrounding Pueblos within the ACEC.
2. Letter of support from the Indian Affairs Committee to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham supporting our request for implementation of a moratorium of all activity in the ACEC area by state agencies.
3. Recommendations for cultural competency training for all DCA staff

Closing: Despite support from APCG, NCAI, 10SPC and individual tribes, the requests of San Felipe Pueblo have been met with resistance and retaliation from the federal level as well as from the NMDCA and Museum of Natural History & Science. The Indian Affairs Committee were instrumental in securing a moratorium on ACEC activity once before and the Pueblo of San Felipe is once again requesting assistance on securing one of our many sacred sites so future generations can continue to learn our histories and carry on our culture.